

**Colchester Dog Park Subcommittee Minutes**  
**May 19, 2009**  
**7:00 PM**  
**Skyview Realty, Hayward Avenue**

**Attendance:** Keith Kelley, Carol Small, Amanda Nelson, Tom Nelson, Jay Cohen, Heather Pelletier, Kirk Pelletier, Ginny Rogowski, Amy Stula

- 1. Call Meeting to Order – 7:05PM**
- 2. Citizen Comments - None**
- 3. Approve minutes –** From May 19 approved by general consent with the change in spelling of Harry's (Section 8.b.ii) noted.
- 4. General items(Keith)**
  - a. FOI Training (June 24 and June 27) –** This training was offered to all committee members, if you would like to attend please contact Jay.
  - b. Jack has offered to keep box of fliers at his office**
  - c. Use of Distribution lists and Booth for general Pet information (rabies, tags, shelters, events, suggestions, help) –** The committee discussed this and is in agreement that we would like to pass on animal related information and news using our distribution lists and booth provided the information is relevant to our animals and is for non-profit organizations.
- 5. Treasurer Report (Amanda) –** Donation made so far = \$374.61 including donations made at the CES Fair.
- 6. Marketing Report (Tom)**
  - a. Flier distribution –** Tom suggested that a group of committee members get together and go around town all at the same time to get the fliers distributed. This may work better to get the fliers out, Tina also e-mailed reminding everyone to update her with businesses where they have placed fliers.
- 7. Development Report (Keith)**
  - a. Final Plan feedback -**
  - b. Budget -**
    - i. Getting estimate from local contractors –** recommendations are to check with Clark's Landscaping and Cutting Edge for snow removal estimates. Keith is also working with Baldi's Stone and Gravel for

estimates on the Driveway and parking area. Heather will check with local shops to get estimates on the price of the signs that we need for the park.

- c. **Board of Selectman meeting – July** - We will be going before the Board of Selectmen on July 16<sup>th</sup> to present our final proposal and ask for approval to build the park. Members and concerned citizens are encouraged to attend the Board of Selectmen meeting. Due to the need to have the plan finalized and submitted to the Board of Selectmen the Friday prior to the presentation we will be holding a Special meeting July 7<sup>th</sup> to focus on the proposal.

## **8. Events Report (Ginny and Carol) -**

- a. **CES (Colchester Elementary School) Fun Fair June 6<sup>th</sup>** – The event was very good for getting the word out about the park. The committee members attending the event reported that there were a lot of questions regarding what a dog park is and why we need one. We need to continue to educate the public about the value and need for the park. Additional feedback from the event was that we had set prices for the stickers and some people thought we were asking too much. So for future events we have created a sign that says “Free with Donation” and we will let people decide how much they would like to donate for the stickers. At the upcoming events we will also have dog biscuits that we can give away to donors. If asked for recommended donation amounts we will offer the suggestion of \$1 for the biscuits, \$1 for the large stickers and \$.50 for the small stickers.
- b. **Rabies Clinic – June 13<sup>th</sup> at Firehouse on Old Hartford Rd (10am-noon)**
- c. **Tag Sale on the Green (CBA) - June 14<sup>th</sup> with a rain date of June 28<sup>th</sup>** – Carol is organizing the committee members that will be attending the event and will send out assignments via e-mail. Keith and Ginny will do set up and break down.
- d. **Other events?** – No other events are currently planned. The committee discussed participating in community tag sales and donating the proceeds to the Dog park, Amanda and Tom and Heather and Kirk will check where their tag sales are occurring and will e-mail the group about donating items to be sold.

- 9. **Walkathon (Amanda)** – Amanda is leading the subcommittee to plan and organize the walkathon. Amanda provided an update about the walkathon, we are still waiting to lock in the date of the event, once the date is set we can really ramp up the planning of the event. Looking at the weekend of Sept 20<sup>th</sup>, at the Recplex. The event will require a lot of work by the committee in planning and execution. At this time it is difficult to estimate the number of expected people attending, but we are estimating 300 participants for planning purposes. We also discussed getting donations and sponsorship from local businesses as well as demonstrations from Police and Military dogs. If you have idea, suggestions or would like to help plan the event please contact Amanda.

## **10. Fund Raising Report**

- a. **New Proposal's or idea's?** Carol presented an idea for working with a local business such as Harry's for a 'Hot' – Dog Day's of summer where we would partner with a business for a day. Carol wrote a proposal plan and discussed this with Harry's, but they are not interested in doing this at this time. We discussed talking to other businesses in town about doing something similar to help raise money and awareness of the park.
- b. **Carol has updated the letter**

#### **11. Next Steps**

- a. **Special Meeting July 7<sup>th</sup>, 7pm Town Hall to work on the presentation and proposal to the Board of Selectmen**
- b. **Board Of Selectmen meeting July 16<sup>th</sup> -**

#### **12. General Comments -**

#### **13. Next Meeting – July 14, Town Hall at 7PM**